Setting a Good Example

Brie Merriwether excels on the volleyball court and in the classroom.

Wolfpack volleyball coach Bryan Bunn loves Brie Merriwether’s attitude. Bunn says his middle blocker has never displayed a sense of entitlement during her time at NC State, working hard for everything she’s earned. She has started for the volleyball team for most of her three-year career while maintaining Dean’s List status every semester as a biology major. The athletic department recently named Merriwether one of the university’s top 10 scholar-athletes.

Bunn hopes Merriwether’s attitude will rub off on her teammates during her senior year. “One of our goals is for her to be a vocal leader,” he says. “We expect a lot of things from her. There’s going to be more weight on her shoulders because she’s a senior.”

Merriwether has led by example. A native of Orlando, Fla., she had her best moments last year when NC State beat rival UNC in its ACC opener. She took advantage of her chemistry with senior setter Megan Cyr to record 18 kills.

Off the court, Merriwether schedules her time so that she can get her schoolwork done. “Even with that, it’s still a stretch and a struggle,” she says. “I think I can force myself into being disciplined enough to not procrastinate at all—I think I do zero procrastination.” She had planned to go to medical school following graduation from NC State, but she now anticipates applying to the chiropractic program at Life University in Marietta, Ga.

Before she starts graduate school, however, Merriwether would like to finish her volleyball career on a high. The Wolfpack volleyball team reached the NCAA tournament last season for the first time since 1987. Merriwether says that ever since its season-ending loss to Texas A&M last November the team has talked about maintaining the program’s upward trajectory. “We want to be top three in the ACC,” she says, “and we want to make it to the national tournament again.”

And Bunn will be pleased with Merriwether’s goals for the coming year. “I just want to be a consistent senior leader for my team,” she says. “I just want to be all of those things and make sure I finish and feel like I really maxed out on my potential.”

—Jack Daly ’01

A recent 100-0 win by NC State’s men’s rugby club team over UNC brings to mind other big Wolfpack wins through the years.

Shutouts in sports don’t happen every day, but what’s even rarer is when a team holds an opponent scoreless and beats them by 100 points. That’s what the NC State men’s rugby club team did in April when it defeated the club team at UNC-Chapel Hill by the eye-popping score of 100-0.

But that wasn’t the first time a Wolfpack team has notched a lopsided win.

> The 1919 football squad also hit the century mark, trouncing a team of sailors from a ship stationed at Hampton Roads, Va., 100-0. “With the sting of defeat at the hands of another bunch of sailors still smarting,” the 1920 Agromeck reported,